The statement on lung cancer by the American College of Chest Physicians was carried by the Associated Press.

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NEWS CALL BULLETIN
San Francisco, California
October 17, 1959

Doctors Uncertain on Lung Cancer Cause

A San Franciscan heading a national group of chest specialists has declined, without further research, to pin blame for the alarming increase of lung cancer on smoking.

Dr. Seymour Farber, speaking as president of the American College of Chest Physicians, took the stand in a talk televised regionally from Albuquerque where the 7,000 member organization is meeting. The talk was reported by the Associated Press.

FARBER SAID the rate of increase of cancer of the lung "has reached disturbing proportions" and "it accordingly becomes mandatory that every effort be made to establish the causative factors that may be responsible for lung cancer."

Referring to tremendous amounts of research being done around the country, Farber said:

"While many theories have been advanced, including the involvement of cigaret smoking, noxious industrial fumes and other respiratory irritants, it is the consensus of the board of regents of the American College of Chest Physicians that further work must be carried out before any single agent or agents can be definitely indicated."

THE STATEMENT, he said, was approved "without a dissenting vote" by regents of the college of chest physicians.

"We can, however, report that as a result of intensive research, new methods have been developed to assist the physician in early diagnosis of cancer of the lung.

"Early diagnosis," he said, "remains our greatest weapon in combatting cancer of the lung. A frequent checkup by your physician, which must include X-rays of the chest, is highly recommended."

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
October 17, 1959

Lung Cancer Increasing; Cause Called Mystery

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP)—The American College of Chest Physicians Friday night declined, without further research, to pin an alarming increase in lung cancer on smoking.

Dr. Seymour Farber of San Francisco, president of the medical group, issued a statement on the problem of lung cancer during a regionally televised report from the college.

Farber said the rate of increase of cancer of the lung "has reached disturbing proportions" and "it accordingly becomes mandatory that every effort be made to establish the causative factors that may be responsible for lung cancer."

Referring to tremendous amounts of research being done around the country, Farber said:

"While many theories have been advanced, including the involvement of cigarette smoking, noxious industrial fumes and other respiratory irritants, it is the consensus of the board of regents of the American College of Chest Physicians that further work must be carried out before any single agent or agents can be definitely indicated."

The statement, he said, was approved "without a dissenting vote" by regents of the group.

THE ALBUQUERQUE TRIBUNE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 15, 1959

Lung Cancer Danger Cited

"Lung cancer is the most rapidly increasing tumor in man and is now killing more men over 35 years of age than tuberculosis," Dr. Seymour M. Farber said today.

Dr. Farber, president of the American College of Chest Physicians, and chief of the University of California Tuberculosis and Chest Service at San Francisco Hospital, is in town to preside over the 25th anniversary celebration of the group.

Approximately 900 persons have registered for the convention which has headquarters at the Western Skies Hotel.

They will meet through Saturday. Seminars and discussions involving over 200 speakers, 55 of them from New Mexico and 48 from Albuquerque, will take place during the conclave.

Kickoff banquet for the convention was held last night with Gov. John Burroughs, City Commission Chairman Maurice Sanchez, and Dr. Louis Overton, president of New Mexico Medical Society, giving short welcome addresses.

Dr. Randolph Lovelace II, described to the group his work with the seven space aeronauts who will make the first attempts to travel into space.

Continuing his remarks on lung cancer, Dr. Farber said it is the most commonly found cancer in the male sex and is rapidly increasing in women.

Asked whether cigarets cause lung cancer, Dr. Farber said: "This has not been accepted by a large number of scientists. It is true however, that an equal number of researchers feel that cigarets are a causative factor. I feel definitive proof is lacking, and for the time being it is essential to keep an open mind so that unfettered research can continue in many directions."

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Source: https://www.industrydocuments.ucsf.edu/docs/mlcm0000